

28 July 2011

Ms. Marlene H. Dortch, Secretary
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street SW
Washington, DC 20554

Re: IB Docket No. 11-109

Dear Ms. Dortch,

For most of my adult life, I have been a professional musician and event promoter in Maine. In that time I've seen technology change the way music is produced, distributed and consumed. Sometimes it seems these changes come annually, sweeping aside the previous "big new thing" and ushering in yet another transition period.

Unfortunately, I've also noted that our access to high-speed broadband Internet service has not exactly kept pace with other areas in terms of speed or affordability. It's a challenge in the urbanized parts of the state, but it's actually a non-starter outside the metro environment. In a state like Maine, where so much of our "scene" might include statewide collaboration and expansion, slow Internet speed should not be accepted as just another consequence of choosing not to live in a Top 20 metro market.

Just as with the other innovation, the Internet is only going to become more and more important in my region's creative economy. Plus, it just becomes more and more a foundation of the music industry. It's clear more advances will come along, and it's equally clear we do not seem to have the spectrum and competition to provide services taken for granted by our bigger-city competition.

I believe the promise of a new 4G network from LightSquared should be given every opportunity to be kept. The opportunities of new jobs and even new industries should not become limited to the "have tech" population centers. Those of us willing to choose places with high quality of life should not be banished to a technological backwater.

Thank you for this chance to comment on what I believe can become a breakthrough network for my region and quite possibly the entire country.

Sincerely

Spencer Albee

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